

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 L-02 NSCE-00 NSC-07 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 IO-03 CPR-01 PRS-01 SAJ-01 SP-01

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DRAFTED BY EUR/CE:NCLEDSKY:SK

APPROVED BY EUR:WSTABLER

EUR/EX - MISS CLARK

L/EUR - MR. SMALL

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P 282348Z JUN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION BERLIN PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE PRIORITY

USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY WARSAW PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 141130

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GE, US

SUBJECT: US DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH EAST GERMANY

MOSCOW FOR HARTMAN

1. SUMMARY. EAST GERMANS HAVE BEEN INVITED TO WASHINGTON FOR SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATIONS LEADING TO ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. TALKS WILL PROBABLY BEGIN ON JULY 15. END SUMMARY.

2. DEPARTMENT OFFICER CALLED AT GDR UN MISSION IN NEW
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YORK JUNE 27 TO INVITE GDR TO SEND DELEGATION TO WASHINGTON

FOR SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATIONS PREPARATORY TO ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS AND RECIPROCAL EXCHANGE OF DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS. INVITATION WAS EXTENDED FOR JULY 15, BUT EAST GERMANS WERE TOLD THAT IF EARLIER DATE WAS MORE CONVENIENT, WE WOULD BE PREPARED MOVE TALKS FORWARD.

3. DEPARTMENT OFFICER EXPLAINED THAT INITIAL NEGOTIATING SESSION WOULD BE CHAIRED BY EUR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN. IT WAS US HOPE THAT UNDERSTANDING COULD BE REACHED QUICKLY ON BASIS AND SCOPE OF FUTURE RELATIONS AND THAT INITIAL NEGOTIATIONS WOULD NOT BE BURDENED WITH NON-ESSENTIAL ISSUES. SPECIFICALLY, US WISHED TO RESOLVE ONLY FIVE SUBJECTS:

(A) THE CONDUCT OF OUR RESPECTIVE DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR OPERATIONS.

(B) PROCEDURES BY WHICH OUTSTANDING CLAIMS AND OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS COULD BE RESOLVED. ON THIS POINT DEPARTMENT OFFICER EXPLAINED THAT US NEEDED COMMITMENT FROM GDR FOR EARLY CLAIMS NEGOTIATIONS, AT WHICH US WOULD BE FREE BRING UP ANY TYPE CLAIM IT CHOSE.

(C) THE STATUS OF PROPERTY OWNED BY USG IN EAST BERLIN. GDR WAS REMINDED THAT US ADMIN TEAM HAD GIVEN EAST GERMANS DRAFT STATEMENT ON THIS SUBJECT LAST AUGUST.

(D) THE POSSIBLE ESTABLISHMENT OF RECIPROCAL FACILITIES OUTSIDE CAPITALS.

(E) INTERNAL TRAVEL BY OUR RESPECTIVE MISSIONS.

4. DEPARTMENT OFFICER EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH PROPERTIES IN EAST BERLIN TENDERED TO US, AND INDICATED THAT DURING SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATIONS US EXPECTED TO REACH EQUITABLE RENTAL FIGURES, DETERMINE WHAT REMODELING WORK NEEDED TO BE DONE, FIX THE DATE OF OCCUPANCY OF EACH PROPERTY AND SIGN ALL LEASE CONTRACTS. DEPARTMENT OFFICER NOTED IN THIS CONNECTION NECESSITY OF HAVING COMPLETE STRUCTURAL DATA ON THE HAUS DES HANDWERKS BUILDING IF POSSIBLE IN ADVANCE OF JULY 15.

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SIBLE IN ADVANCE OF JULY 15.

5. GDR REPS EXPRESSED PLEASURE AT US DECISION TO MOVE FORWARD TO SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATIONS. EAST GERMANS AGREED TO TELEPHONE WASHINGTON AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WITH FORMAL GDR RESPONSE TO INVITATION, TO PROVIDE EARLY INDICATION OF SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF GDR DELEGATION, AND TO STATE WHAT SUBJECTS, IN ADDITION TO THOSE LISTED ABOVE, GDR NEGOTIA-

TORS WOULD WISH TO RAISE IN WASHINGTON.

6. GDR REPRESENTATIVES QUESTIONED DEPARTMENT OFFICER AT LENGTH ONLY ON CLAIMS ISSUE (PARA 3 (B) ABOVE), DISPLAYING IN THE PROCESS CONSIDERABLE NERVOUSNESS THAT PROBLEM COULD COMPLICATE AND DELAY NEGOTIATIONS. DEPARTMENT OFFICER DID NOT DENY THIS POSSIBILITY, BUT SAID DECISION WAS ESSENTIALLY UP TO GDR. EAST BERLIN COULD TAKE RIGID UNCOMPROMISING STANCE OR COULD SHOW UNDERSTANDING PARTICULARLY OF NAZI VICTIMS. IN THIS CONNECTION, DEPARTMENT OFFICER SUGGESTED THAT GDR MIGHT WISH TO GRANT INTERVIEW TO LEADINST OFFICIALS OF CONFERENCE ON JEWISH MATERIAL CLAIMS AGAINST GERMANY, AN ORGANIZATION WITH BRANCHES IN US AND THROUGHOUT WESTERN EUROPE WHICH WAS PREPARED TO BYPASS GOVERNMENTS AND REACH AGREEMENT DIRECTLY WITH GDR AS IT HAD WITH

FRG IN MID-50'S. GDR REPS SAID THEY WERE AWARE OF CLAIMS CONFERENCE BUT DID NOT KNOW WHAT ATTITUDE GDR WISHED ADOPT TOWARD IT. GDR REPS SAID THEY WERE POWERLESS TO INFLUENCE DECISION ON THIS MATTER BUT AGREED TO REPORT SUBSTANCE OF CONVERSATION TO EAST BERLIN. SISCO

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHMENT, NEGOTIATIONS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE141130
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: NCLEDSKY:SK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740172-0715
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974062/aaaaablc.tel
Line Count: 136
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kelleyw0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 APR 2002 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <24-Sep-2002 by kelleyw0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH EAST GERMANY MOSCOW FOR HARTMAN
TAGS: PFOR, GC, US
To: BERLIN
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005